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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/913,819	11/02/2001	Rene Bongers	09669/006001	4515

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EXAMINER

TIEU, BENNY QUOC

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2642

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/913,819

Applicant(s)

BONGERS, RENE

Examiner

Benny Q. Tieu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,6-17 and 19-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,6-17 and 19-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/6/5.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1,3,4,6-17 and 19-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Molne (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,811) in view of Hokkanen (U.S. Patent No. 5,675,628).

Regarding claims 1 and 17, Molne teaches a method for identifying a subscriber in a first and a second telecommunication network, wherein the subscriber possesses a mobile telephone station having a subscriber identification module, said subscriber identification module comprising means to be identified on the first telecommunication network under a first identity, as well as means to be identified on the second telecommunication network under a second identity, said method comprising:

defining the first telecommunication network as a priority with respect to the second telecommunication network (column 3, lines 1-20);

identifying the subscriber identification module on the first telecommunication network under the first identity (column 8, lines 1-3);

checking to see whether the mobile telephone station is inside a coverage field of the first telecommunication network when the subscriber identification module is currently identified on

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the second telecommunications network, said checking being made by regularly re-initializing the mobile telephone station (column 3, lines 21-32); and

automatically identifying the subscriber identification module (SIM) on the first telecommunication network under the first identity when the mobile telephone station is in the coverage field of the first telecommunication network (column 4, lines 16-35).

Molne does not explicitly teach that the SIM is identified by a certain telephone network under a certain identity. However, it would have been obvious that the mobile telephone station with a SIM has to have an identity in order for the certain network to identify the station. For example, Hokkanen teaches a method and apparatus for enabling roaming of subscriber among plural mobile radio systems, using mobile equipment accepting removable subscriber identity module in which identification of a mobile subscriber is based on a SIM card in a GSM system (column 5, lines 9-10). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of a certain identity of a SIM to identify a mobile station on a certain telephone network taught by Hokkanen into the method disclosed by Molne in order to easily allow temporary mobile subscriber identity roaming between different mobile radio systems.

Regarding claims 3, 4, 6-16 and 19-27, see column 4, line 15 to column 5, line 3 and column 5, line 61 to column 7, line 39.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed April 13, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Molne does not teach or suggest the SIM switching subscriber

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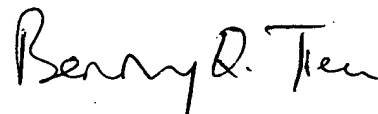
identities depending on the network to which the mobile telephone is connected. However, Examiner points out that column 8, lines 1-3, Molne teaches that the IMSI is used both for the mobile station to identify its home PLMN and for the mobile to transmit as its own identity. Therefore, Examiner believes, for the roaming selection purposes, the mobile station, inherently or at least obvious, automatically switches to a different identity in SIM based on a priority list of networks as further taught by Molne (column 7, lines 40-64).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benny Q. Tieu whose telephone number is 571-272-7490. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 6:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular communications and (571) 273-8300 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.



**BENNY TIEU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

BQT

September 30, 2005